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# Pelham NEWS

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■ REMEMBRANCE: Pelham man shares grandfather's writings

## Century-old journal a window to the war

**SARAH FERGUSON**  
Pelham News Staff

FONTHILL — Robert Law didn't talk much about the time he served in the First World War.

It wasn't until his 10-year-old grandson, Bernie, began asking questions about his experiences, that Robert shared some of his memories.

"I asked too many questions, so he finally told me," Bernie Law, who is now in his sixties, said.

Robert volunteered to go to war when he was 19 years-old. He served in the Canadian Army from 1914 to 1915 as a member of the Black Watch D Company, 1st Battalion, 5th Royal Highlander Regiment of Canada.

See REMEMBRANCE page 2



SARAH FERGUSON/TSUBUNE PHOTO

Fonthill resident Bernie Law looks over the journal written by his grandfather, Robert Law, who served in the First World War.

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# UPFRONT

■ **REMEMBRANCE DAY:** Legion introduces Poppy Keepers

## Say goodbye to days of lost poppies

KARENA WALTER  
QMI Agency Niagara

Poppy thwarting seatbelts, scarves and overcoats be warned — there's a revolutionary new security tool in legion boxes this year.

Poppy Keepers — a simple small plastic tube similar to an earring backing — are being offered by the Royal Canadian Legion for the first time.

The innovation is the biggest thing to hit the annual poppy campaign since the flower centres were changed from green to black in 2002.

"They are very, very popular," said Chuck Johnston, poppy chair for Port Dalhousie's Royal Canadian Legion Branch 350. "People are saying, 'It's about time someone brought out something like this.'"



Canadians have long depended on flag pins, eraser bits, tape gobs and other homemade methods to keep their poppies in place or resign themselves to the inevitability of losing several a season.

While Poppy Keepers will be hailed by ordinary folk,

the major driver for their introduction was the restaurant industry, which wanted more security so loose poppies don't fall into food.

Bill Maxwell, senior program officer for Royal Canadian Legion Dominion Command, said more secure poppies for seniors and children

were also a consideration.

"They can put the poppy keeper on and it adheres to the clothing much better, much safer," he said from Ottawa. "You don't have the pin flying off at an angle."

But will fastened poppies lead to fewer poppy sales and less money for veterans?

Maxwell doesn't think so. "I think Canadians are aware the donations for a poppy are to care for veterans across the country," he said. "I think up until now, we all have three or four or five somewhere in our home, but we go out and buy a poppy every year when they come out."

The Poppy Keepers are part of a massive rebranding of the legion this year that includes a new logo, revamped website, social media campaign

### BY THE NUMBERS:

19 million — No. of poppies worn in Canada over the last year

14 million — No. of dollars returned to veterans in Canadian communities

320,000 — No. of members of the Royal Canadian Legion

and products such as "Lest We Forget" black rubber wristbands.

Maxwell said the legion wanted to freshen up its image and display a more contemporary look that's attractive and appealing for advertising. It's about the sustainability of the legion and emphasizing what it does and how people can join.

"It's been a major change and branding in communications over the last year."

In St. Catharines, legions are reporting the products offered in addition to poppies are popular.

Neil O'Farrell, immediate past president of Branch 24 downtown, said the branch distributed 500 gold leaf pins and 100 bracelets in six days. "We've gone through what we ordered and we have new orders in," he said.

The wristbands are also being snapped up at the Port Dalhousie Legion.

"We do have some on our bar and people pick them up like crazy," Johnston said. "They like them, but it doesn't replace the poppy. It's just an added thing."

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■ **REMEMBRANCE**

## Pelham man sharing grandfather's memories

From page 1

He moved to the 2nd Canadian Division, Artillery, Corporal, a unit which he served with until 1919.

While Robert Law didn't like to speak about his time in the military, he wrote down every thought running through his head while he was on the battlefield in a small leather-bound journal, which is now more than 100 years old.

In one of the pages, Robert Law wrote of a horrific experience

of killing a German soldier. The experience was also something Robert briefly shared with Bernie.

It was in the trenches of Vimy Ridge that Robert Law was forced to take lives.

"He had run out of bullets and had to do hand-to-hand combat," Bernie said. "He had to kill two German boys and he cried."

Robert cried because he was a Christian man who didn't believe in hurting a

soul, Bernie said.

"My grandfather told me, 'I had to kill these German boys or they would have killed me.'"

When the war finally ended in 1918, Robert stayed behind with many other Canadian soldiers to help Belgium rebuild its country.

Robert was assigned to the artillery infantry and rode on horseback as he policed the city. He was selected for the position because he was a

blacksmith in Ireland before he emigrated to Canada and

"he knew how to handle horses very well," Bernie said.

After the war, the economy in Belgium had been shattered and the country's people were starving.

Bernie recalled his grandfather telling him how he would take the horses that had been lamed and bring them to the outskirts of the city to euthanize them.

"He would come back and

he told the starving people where the horses were and they could go butcher the horses and eat."

Although Bernie never plans to have his grandfather's journal published, he wants to share his stories.

Bernie, who serves as poppy chairman and volunteer for the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 613 in Fonthill, said all Canadians should know what veterans have sacrificed so people can have the right

to freedom.

"This is a legacy handed down to all Canadians. There are thousands of stories of men and women who have fought for Canada," he said.

"I'm proud of my grandfather, who was one of these veterans who came home to share the stories of our history."

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## LOCAL NEWS

■ **TRAGEDY:** Victim identified as Port Colborne's Andrea Stewart

## Fallen tree victim fondly remembered

SARAH FERGUSON  
Pelham News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Andrea Stewart will be remembered by those that knew her best as kind, creative and fun.

"She loved reading, she loved jewelry and she loved watching her CSIs and Criminal Minds," long-time friend Kaye Wagner-Dekoning said.

Her loved ones were left "stone shocked" when Stewart, 56, was killed Friday morning when a large tree fell on the car she was driving on Fielden Ave., Wagner-Dekoning said.

Environment Canada reported Port Colborne recorded the strongest wind gusts in the province Friday with gusts of up to 106 km/h. Port Colborne Fire and Emergency Services responded to the call for a tree that fell on the car Stewart was driving shortly after 11 a.m. Stewart was pronounced dead at the

scene.

Family and friends were left in disbelief about the tragic accident.

Andrea had lived in Port Colborne a long time. She lived right next door to me," Wagner-Dekoning said of Stewart.

Stewart, originally from the Port Erie area, has lived in Port Colborne for "many years" and became part of a close-knit group of neighbours on Omer Ave.

Although Stewart never married and didn't have children, Wagner-Dekoning said her friend cherished her family and would spend as much time with them as she could. Wagner-Dekoning said Stewart's family lived out of town.

"She has a brother, two sisters and two nieces she loved very much," she said.

"We became friends and have been for a long time ...

we often hung out together," Wagner-Dekoning added.

She described Stewart as someone who preferred spending time with several close friends and family.

"She always liked to have fun and she usually stayed in our little circle of friends."

"Andrea had always spent many afternoons sitting on my front porch. My front porch is where we would congregate and chat," Wagner-Dekoning said.

She said Stewart often kept to herself, not wanting to impose on other people. But, when Wagner-Dekoning had a chance, she would knock on Stewart's door to say hello and share conversations and meals.

"I always shared with her when I was cooking. I would always bring her some of what I was making and I'd say 'I've got an extra plate of this.'"

Stewart lived living in Port Colborne because of her

SUPPLIED PHOTO

Andrea Stewart was killed Friday morning after a tree struck her car on Fielden Ave.

neighbours living nearby.

"She didn't venture too far outside of our circle. She felt comfortable with us. She'd visit her family quite a bit, but she was content to stay home."

At Frank's Home Building Centre in Port Colborne, where Stewart had worked for 26 years, owner Frank Danch was left in shock.

"Andrea worked as a bookkeeper for me for 15 years, and even longer for my father before that," said Danch, who learned of Stewart's death Friday afternoon.

"She's the kind of person who wouldn't hurt a fly," he said.

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■ **WEATHER**

DAVE JOHNSON/WELLAND TRIBUNE

With storm-whipped Lake Erie as his backdrop, The Weather Network's Mark Robinson does a live broadcast from the municipal boat launch at Crystal Beach, Ont. Friday, Nov. 1, 2013. A windstorm hit the Niagara Region, with wind speeds topping 106 km/h in Port Colborne, Ont., the highest recorded in the province.

## High winds tear through Niagara

MARIYANNE FIRTH  
Tribune Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Light posts shook violently, tree branches crashed to the ground and hydro was disrupted for hundreds of residents as a wind storm tore through south Niagara Friday.

Port Colborne recorded the strongest wind gusts in the province with speeds of up to 106 km/h.

The high winds resulted in the death of a 56-year-old Port Colborne woman, who was killed when a large tree fell on the car she was driving.

Trees, as well as hydro poles and lines, were reported down in several areas around Niagara and several closures were

reported as a result of the weather.

Navigation was suspended on the Welland Canal in Port Colborne at 4:30 a.m. Friday and the remained closed into the afternoon, said St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corp. spokesperson Andrew Bogora. The canal bridges cannot be raised safely if wind speeds are above 64 km/h, he said. Four vessels were delayed in Port Colborne and two in Port Weller as a result.

The Walker Waste and Recycling Drop-Off Depot in Thorold closed Friday due to high winds, while other Niagara landfills remained opened. The Howell Family Pumpkin Farm, on Holland Rd. in Pelham, also closed roads for the day because of the weather.

Environment Canada issued a wind warning for the area, which remained in effect into Friday afternoon. Warning preparedness meteorologist Geoff Coulson said wind must reach a minimum of 90 km/h for a warning to be issued.

That's the speed when damage typically begins to occur, he said.

Environment Canada has been monitoring wind conditions in Port Colborne for the past 18 years and in that time gusts have climbed past 100 km/h 50 times, Coulson said. The highest speed recorded in the lake-side city in that time was 135 km/h on March 9, 2002.

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# Pelham NEWS

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## Time to park Drive Clean program

It's not often that a government program actually posts a surplus, especially in Ontario, but that's what we have with the provincial Drive Clean program. It's operating with a \$19-million surplus, but even though it's a money-maker for the government, it should be mothballed. If anything, the surplus underlines the fact that Drive Clean has been taking Ontario's drivers to the cleaners.

Drive Clean was introduced 14 years ago by the Mike Harris Progressive Conservatives in an effort to measure and control the amount of emissions coming from vehicles registered for use in Ontario. Vehicles would be checked every two years, and their licence plate renewal withheld if the vehicle failed to pass the mandated emissions test. And Drive Clean would be revenue neutral, meaning it wouldn't be used for what Premier Kathleen Wynne now calls a "revenue tool."

From the start, however, Drive Clean was filled with contradictions. In its early years, the program included only those drivers living in the GTA and Hamilton. It was expanded to include Southwestern Ontario in 2001 and Eastern Ontario in 2002. But even today it doesn't include vehicles registered to residents living in Northern Ontario. For some inexplicable reason, non-diesel vehicles up north are exempt.

It's not that Drive Clean is a bad idea. It makes sense—if there's a problem of vehicle emissions in Ontario... and if every registered vehicle in the province was regularly tested. But the Ministry of Environment suggests we don't have a problem with emissions. And Drive Clean is used only selectively; some jurisdictions are exempt.

So let's get rid of Drive Clean. It's outlived its purpose. It was supposed to be revenue neutral... and now it's making money. It was supposed to help reduce vehicle emissions... and that's been accomplished (mostly by private industry).

Drive Clean is allowed to continue, it will continue as a revenue tool... because that's what it has obviously become.

—Peter Epp

# COMMUNITY

## As volunteers aspire for better, they inspire others

MAYOR DAVE AUGUSTYN

Last Wednesday Council and I hosted the Town's Annual Volunteer & Community Corporate Recognition Ceremony at Lookout Point Golf Club. It's one of my favourite events of the year because we recognize the dedication and hard work of hundreds of Pelham's volunteers.

Volunteers work to beautify our Town — as part of Communities in Bloom, or the Horticultural Society, or those that have "adopted a road," or the Downtown Beautification Committee.

Other volunteers organize Pelham's significant public events — from the Forthill Bandshell Concerts, to Bikothonfest, to Fenwick's 160th Anniversary Celebration, to the Canada Day Celebrations, to Summerfest.

Volunteers — like coaches, convenors, team managers, and so on — are every bit of a pro from figure skating to soccer, ensure that our children and youth practice skills, enjoy sport, and learn how to play fair.

Others work to ensure that our Town pro-

gresses and moves forward including those serving on the Library Board, the Highway Transportation Committee, and the Mayor's Youth Advisory Council. And members of Pelham's service clubs work to enhance community — from supporting our parks to our teams to local charities.

We presented the "Peer Award" as a special way of recognizing outstanding individuals. Each community-based group or organization in Pelham nominates one of their most exemplary volunteers.

Deep appreciation to Peer Award recipients: Michael Andran, Knights of Columbus; Roxanna Bowman, Pelham Farmers' Market; Tom Boyce, Pelham Cares; Gary Chambers, Fenwick's 160th Anniversary; Doug Gaylor, Forthill Lions Club; Leo Giovenazzo, Canada Day Committee; Bill King, Communities in Bloom Committee; Andrea Keus, Pelham Soccer Club; Cora Ann MacKinnon, Niagara Centre Skating Club; Joseph Marchant, Pelham Active Transportation; Gladys Recchia, Fenwick Lions Club; Norm Recchia, Fenwick Lions Club; Linda Rouse, Forthill Lions Club; Heidi Tebrake, Pelham Art Festival; Madeline Wallace, Mayor's Youth Advisory

Council; Diane Weaves, 613 Royal Canadian Army Cadets; Jim Weidner, 613 Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 613; Loraine Woods, Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 613 Ladies Auxiliary.

We also honoured our Corporate Citizens — those businesses that give money, resources, product — to all facets of our community. We especially honoured the Lazy Loon Restaurant with a Corporate Peer Award for their generosity to so many charities and commitment to improving our Town.

Thanks to Joseph Veloso, Olympian and special guest speaker, and Taylor Wallace and Jessica Wilson, singers and song writers, for inspiration and entertainment. And, thank you Perry Wakulich for designing and creating a wonderful and new Peer Award.

I offer deep thanks to each of the Town's volunteers and corporate citizens for giving of themselves to help other people and to make Pelham a vibrant, creative and caring community for all.

You may contact Mayor Dave at [mayordave@pelham.ca](mailto:mayordave@pelham.ca) or read past columns at [www.pelhammayordave.blogspot.com](http://www.pelhammayordave.blogspot.com).

## Reunions - insult contests with name tags

Never trust anyone over 30 for they are the ones who organize reunions.

For most of my life I have successfully avoided attending reunions - high school, baseball, college and especially that weird family reunion in Kansas a couple years ago at which 33-year-old Richard Lorenc finally found his biological mother Vivian Wheeler, 62 who just happened to be... and this would have upset for Richard when he was little Dick in short pants and looking for free tickets - Barnum & Bailey's Bearded Sideshow Lady. AKAWARD!

Look, I'm not saying your lost Aunt Elizabeth was west by the name of Little Borden but it could happen... and probably at a reunion.

At reunions age jokes come with weight jokes the very hair pieces appear platform shoes. Familiar faces come with forgotten names and long, very long pauses.

"Oh sorry, no, I only asked if your daughter was pregnant because she has that wonderful glow about her."

Last month, another better judgment I attended the Dain City Reunion to honour the longevity and vibrance of the little village on the Welland Canal where I spent the first 17 years of my life. I only went to stand drink with my childhood buddy Malcolm Hilton who, showing much better judgment than I did, did not show up.

And it was fine, really. Old scores were not settled, nobody stroked the stage while I was speaking and a lot of compliments were exchanged... followed by "for you age, of course." Everybody avoided the guy holding up a photo and looking for "the one who got away" mainly because he was still with the one who



WILLIAM THOMAS

HUMOUR

didn't. No real fathers were discovered if you know what I mean.

But there's always that question you never want to hear: "Do you remember how you humiliated me when we were growing up in Dain City?" I didn't of course but I had a feeling it was about to hear about it.

We were having a drink, me and my buddy Paul Stout who married Brenda Poll who was still starting at me. "We do," I said.

One summer, as the story goes, I coached the Dain City Girls Softball Team. I was about 16 years old and the girls were 12 and 13.

As Brenda started naming the players — ace pitcher Carolyn Normande, Joanne Williams, Lynne Dorsey and Nancy Jewett, it all started coming back to me but not in a good way.

I was hitting groundsies to the infield which was anchored by Brenda at third base. Brenda was one of the best players on the team but today was not her day.

"The drill was called 'bring it home' in which I hit to an infielder and she would throw to home plate to start a run from scoring. The first one I hit to Brenda went between her legs and into left field. The second grounder hit her in the shin and the third popped out of her glove. In a real game we'd be behind by three runs, all on errors by the third baseman. That's when I lost it. I walked out to third, relieved Brenda

of her glove and told her to sit on the bench nearby. "Watch and learn," I said, as sternly as a fifteen-year-old with acne and clean diggers could.

"Penny!" I yelled. "Conce!" No not a girl but my pet dog Brenda, a medium-sized redish mutt with buck teeth, the result of a collision with a motorcycle. In a flash, Penny was sitting beside the third base bag, panting and smiling and watching my every move.

"Stay!" I ordered returning to home plate where my catcher had her mask up on her head, squinting toward third base.

I hit a sharp grounder toward third that took three hops before it reached the base. Penny jumped straight up in the air, rising twice as high as he was tall and cleanly caught the ball in his mouth.

"Bring!" I yelled, and in a fract of ten disbelieving teenage girls, Penny articulated the routine. He brought it home.

"Now Brenda," I said, using the bat as a pointer, "when you can play that position as well as my dog can, I'll give you your glove back." There was a fair bit of giggling and stifled laughter and not all of it was from the dog. I realize now it was the wrong thing to do and I understand how Brenda must have felt humiliated. I just don't realize she'd still be bitter about it 50 years later.

Much more mature and wiser now, I'm not saying you shouldn't use household pets to show humans how to perform rudimentary tasks in life. I'm saying that good reunions where you can be confronted by these kinds of embarrassing stories. Reunions - no place for old men with a bit of a checked past.

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# LOCAL NEWS

## ■ RECYCLING

### Region wins recycling awards

Niagara Region's waste diversion program has been recognized for its efforts in keeping garbage out of local landfills.

The Recycling Council of Ontario and the Municipal Waste Association have given the Region awards for the outreach campaigns to improve its recycling and waste-diversion programs.

The two organizations gave the Region a gold medal for its 2012 outreach program that was focused on educating residents on what materials they can put into recycling bins. More than 5,000 also participated in the campaign's recycle and win contest, a regional press release says.

The Region's pilot curbside battery collection program in Welland, Pelham

and Port Colborne, which resulted in 2.5 metric tonnes of batteries being diverted from landfills, was also given a gold medal.

The Region and Emterra Environmental, the company contracted to do recycling in Niagara, won a silver medal for the Make Your Contribution at the Curb campaign. The program sees Emterra donate a dollar to the Niagara Health System Foundation for every tonne of recyclable material placed in grey and blue boxes in Niagara.

"Recognition from these two organizations is evidence that we're on the right track and should continue to support these important campaigns," Niagara Region CAO Harry Schlange said.

## ■ POLITICS: Toronto mayor says he'll run city by himself if he has to

### Back me or quit: Ford to committee

DON PEAT  
QMI Agency

TORONTO — Toronto Mayor Rob Ford is now daring members of his executive committee to ensure they are still onside.

"Anybody that wants to go, go," Ford told Oakley. "I'll be running the ship even if it is by myself. I'm going to be serving the city and guaranteeing I'll be watching every dime."

Asked if he's going to be a "lame duck" mayor now, Ford shrugged.

"Johnny, time will tell," he said.

This latest dare comes a day after Ford dared Toronto Police to charge him if he's done something illegal. In an interview with KISS 92.5's Maurie Sherman, Ford — whose administration is still besieged by the alleged crack video controversy — challenged investigators to arrest him if he's broken the law.

"If I did something illegal

a.m. Monday — maintained he'd be getting back to work and meeting with members of his executive committee to ensure they are still onside.

"Anybody that wants to go, go," Ford told Oakley. "I'll be running the ship even if it is by myself. I'm going to be serving the city and guaranteeing I'll be watching every dime."

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Police to charge him if he's done something illegal. In an interview with KISS 92.5's Maurie Sherman, Ford — whose administration is still besieged by the alleged crack video controversy — challenged investigators to arrest him if he's broken the law.

"If I did something illegal

then arrest me," Ford said. "Obviously, I haven't."

Ford stressed Monday he has not been charged with anything.

"I have nothing against the police, we have the best police force in the world," he said. "I support those front-line officers that sacrifice their lives every day for us." Ford encouraged Blair to reveal the cost of the investigation and then promised to increase pay for officers in the next budget.

"These people deserve an increase, I'm going to be hiring more police in this budget right now," he said.

During the interview, Ford also came out defending his brother, Coun. Doug Ford, claiming "nobody gives me better advice."

"He will be premier one day," the mayor said. "He's smart, he's ambitious, the guy is 10 times smarter than anyone I've ever met."

At city hall Monday, TTC

chair Karen Stintz — who is running for mayor next year — said Ford has spoken.

"He's not going to resign, he's not going to take a leave of absence," Stintz said. "From my perspective the business of the city has to continue. We need to move forward on our budget, we need to move forward on issues like the Gardiner, issues around the airport. There are enough issues facing the city that we now just need to pull together and figure out how we are going to continue the business of the city."

Coun. Gloria Lindsay Luby described Ford's Sunday apology as "minimalist."

"That doesn't cut it," Lindsay Luby said. "I think he has not confronted the issue the way it should be confronted."

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# LOCAL NEWS

■ FASHION SHOW HIGHLIGHTS STUDENTS' WORK

## E.L. Crossley students to show off artwork

E.L. Crossley art students will be watching their artwork walk the runway of Niagara Artist's Centre's wearable art show Strutt for the fifth year consecutively, Nov. 16.

A group of 12 students, lead by teacher and visual artist Sherry Wilkinson, created an ensemble of three pieces entitled Corporate Collision/Middle Finger Salute. Two of the art structures imitate large looming corporate towers, while the third piece is a plastic transparent business suit and hand-stenciled bodysuit. The satirical artwork demonstrates the disillusionment brought on by an ever-increasingly corporatized world wherein the element of individuality and human connection is lost. The students worked on the project for five weeks, machine-sewing plastic sheeting, cutting out 264 window openings, 480 miniature frames with exacto knives from corrugated cardboard, and hand drawing each stencil for tattoo designs.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

E.L. Crossley art students will be participating in Niagara Artist's Centre's wearable art show Strutt. This is the fifth year that the art students have participated in the art show.

Students Sam Lea, Jen Lea and Matt Ellis said they got their idea from a number of personal experiences, including navigating

through job searching and interviews, as well as seeing parents, friends and relatives lose jobs.

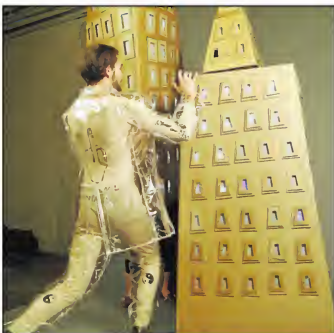


PHOTO SUBMITTED

E.L. Crossley art students are hard at work getting ready to show off their artwork on the runway of Niagara Artist's Centre's wearable art show, Nov. 16.

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## RECREATION PROGRAMS & CLASSES

### Zumba Fitness @ Pelham Arena

Tuesday Nov 12 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm  
Thursday Nov 14 9:30 am - 10:30 am

Drop in and try any session for \$6 or purchase your 10 + 2 bonus passes for \$60.

### Zumba Kids & Zumba Kids Jr. @ Pelham Arena

Turn up the music, wiggle, shake and have a blast with your friends in these rockin', high-energy fitness parties packed with specially choreographed kid-friendly routines.

**Tuesday Nov 12** 5:30 pm - 6:00 pm (4-7 yrs) **Thursday Nov 14** 5:30 pm - 6:00 pm (4-7 yrs)  
6:00 pm - 6:30 pm (8+ yrs) 6:00 pm - 6:30 pm (8+ yrs)

Drop in and try any session for \$4.50 or purchase your 10 + 2 bonus passes for \$40 at Pelham Town Hall. For more information on any of the Zumba classes, please contact (905) 892-2607, ext. 329.

### Walking Club - Everyone is welcome! - Nov 12 and Nov 14

Interested in walking in Pelham? Interested in joining a Walking Club? Then join us! Tuesdays at Pelham Arena from 9-10 am and Thursdays at Fonthill Bandshell from 9-10:30 am. For more information, please contact (905) 892-2607 ext. 329.

### Arena Programs

Public Skating	Adult Public Skating	Adult/Preschool	Men's Shiny Hockey	Women's Shiny Hockey	Women's Learn to Play Hockey
<b>Tuesday Nov 12</b> 7:30-8:30 pm <b>Friday Nov 15</b> 8:00 - 9:30 pm <b>Sunday Nov 17</b> 1:00-2:20 pm	<b>Thursday Nov 14</b> 1:00 - 2:00 pm	<b>Tuesday Nov 12</b> 1:00 - 2:00 pm <b>Friday Nov 15</b> 10:00 - 11 am	<b>Tuesday Nov 12</b> 8:00 - 9:00 am <b>Friday Nov 15</b> 9:00 - 10:00 am	<b>Monday Nov 11</b> 10:00 - 11:00 am <b>Thursday Nov 14</b> 10:30 - 11:30 am	<b>Thursday Nov 14</b> 9:30 - 10:30 am

"Get Active for Life" Join us at a park near you! Participation is at no charge, but we do require a registration form be submitted.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sunday
10:00 - 11:00 am Peace Park (Nordic Walking)	10:00 - 11:00 am Woodstream Park (Walking)	10:00 - 11:00 am Peace Park (Walking)	10:00 - 11:00 am Woodstream Park (Walking)	10:00 - 11:00 am Cherry Ridge Park (Walking)	
6:00 - 7:00 pm Cherry Ridge Park (Walking)	6:00 - 7:00 pm Peace Park (Walking)	6:00 - 7:00 pm Pelham Arena (Cycling)	6:00 - 7:00 pm Woodstream Park (Walking)		6:00 - 7:00 pm Peace Park (Walking)

For more information, please visit pelham.ca or contact jcook@pelham.ca or call 905-892-2607 ext. 329.

### COMMUNITY EVENTS & NEWS



#### Remembrance Day - Municipal Offices Closed, Arena and Programs Open & Running

The Town of Pelham Municipal Offices will be closed for Remembrance Day on Monday, November 11, 2013. The Pelham Arena is open as usual and all scheduled programming will run as planned.

**Should Pelham Have a Community Garden? - Tell Us What You Think!** Take our brief survey to voice your opinion as to whether Pelham should implement a community garden! Visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/PelhamCommunityGarden> to tell us what you think. The survey closes Friday November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013, at 4:30 pm.

**Development Charges Background Study Open House - Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup> 6:30PM** Fonthill Fire Station #1 (177 Highway #20 West)

The Mayor's Gala Committee is seeking applications from local organizations serving Pelham that are also interested in receiving a donation from the funds generated by the Annual Mayor's Gala. Visit [pelham.ca](http://pelham.ca) for more information.

**Project Zero Smoke Alarm Program Continues - Call the Pelham Fire Department at 905-892-2607 ext. 201 if you would like your smoke alarm assessed.**

**CHRISTMAS IN PELHAM!** November 6, 2013 - January 5, 2014 Check out these great events around town this week and watch for more next week!



**November 7 (10am to 9pm), November 8 (10am to 7pm), November 9 (10am to 5pm):**

**Holiday Gift Showcase - Shoppes of Ridgeville**

**4 Participating Shoppes:** Hamillons of Pelham, Le Village, Nature's Corner Bakery & Cafe, Sweet Thoughts

**November 8 & 10 (10am to 5pm): Art Studio Open House - Bay Street - Ridgeville**  
1341 Effingham St., Ridgeville - 20% of sales donated to Pelham Cares

**November 16 (10 am - 3 pm): Homes for the Holiday House Tour - 6 locations in Fonthill**

Tickets available at Fonthill United Church, 42 Church Hill, 905 892-6433 - \$20.00

**November 16 (11 am - 3 pm): Holiday Shopping Spree - Fonthill Fire Station #1**

Presented by the Fonthill Lionsess featuring bake table, craft table, vendors, gift basket draw and a light lunch.





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[levillogedecor.com](http://levillogedecor.com)

**Christmas**  
**OPEN HOUSE**

Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> - 10am - 9pm

Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> - 10am - 7pm

Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> - 10am - 5pm



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**Opening Festivities**

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**Nov. 9 (2-8pm)**



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**Rosemary's Natural Choices**

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**Niagara Region Women's  
Health & Wellness Expo**



**Saturday November 16<sup>th</sup>  
Croatian National Hall**

**9:00 am to 5:00 pm**

**6 Broadway Avenue • Welland**

You are invited to the first-ever **Women's Health & Wellness Expo** to be held in the Niagara Region. This one-day event features a sensational speakers series with renowned health experts - presenting information about natural therapies and remedies available to improve your health!

- 10:00 am - Sherry Torkos B.Sc. Phm  
Stress, Weight Gain & Heart Disease: Reversing the Trends
- 11:30 am - Dr. Zoltan Rona - Reverse Inflammation Naturally
- 1:00 pm - Deslee Nielsen RD  
Food for Thought: Is Your Second Brain Optimally Nourished?
- 2:30 pm - Dr. Alvin Pettie - Hormonal Balance for Women

Plus there will be demos, **free samples**, health information and gifts from our many exhibitors - including local natural health practitioners and natural health suppliers. Don't miss it! This is the natural health event of the year. For more info or to get your **FREE** pass, visit **Rosemary's Natural Choices** or call us at 905-714-0586.

**Visit Our Show Participants for Free Samples, Info and Much More!**  
Event Vendors include • CLM Health • Rescive Life • Lebon Marketing • Nika Herbs • PureSource • Genuine Health • Preferred Nutrition • Purely Life • Natures Way • El Peto • Ontario Natural Food Co-op • Fenwick Coffee • Sugar Me Sexy • Shawn Manksie ND • John Ciccone, Osteopath & Sports Injury • Body Plus • Bio-K • Natural Factors • Thermography Niagara • Movement Unlimited • and much more!

**Women's Health & Wellness Expo Natural Health Speakers include...**



Dr. Andy Pettie  
Women's Health Specialist



Deslee Nielsen  
Nutrition Specialist



Dr. Zoltan Rona  
Natural Health Specialist



Sherry Torkos  
Natural Health Specialist



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# LOCAL NEWS

## ■ PRE-CHRISTMAS RUSH AT PELHAM LIBRARY

### Pelham Library offers tips on de-cluttering

FRAN OLES  
Pelham Library

When we are heading into the pre-Christmas rush of events now, and the first one I want to remind you of is The Friends of Pelham Library "Chairfire" silent auction. Bidding opens Nov. 4, and will continue until 1 p.m. Dec. 7. See the display in front of the circulation desk. Bid high! Bid often!

Also on now and continuing until Nov. 8, at 1 p.m. is the semi-annual clothing sale. Plenty of bargains here.

The clothing sale leads us nicely into the program, Urge to Purge/De-cluttering Tips, which takes place Nov. 11, at 7 p.m. the cost is \$3 Please register ahead. On a similar note, there is also the "Antiques 'On the Road' Show" Nov. 20. Several Niagara region experts will be in the Festival Room of the Library from 7 to 9 p.m. to tell you about your treasure. The cost for this event is \$2. Please register ahead and let us know what you are bringing.

Talking of stuff in your attic brings to another kind of old

stuff, not things but people. Are you interested in genealogy? Are you having trouble clamoring farther up your family tree? Members of the Niagara Chapter of the Ontario Genealogical Society will be on hand Nov. 12, at 6:30 p.m. in our Festival Room to advise on your research. To help you record the memories of the older members of your family, interview sheets will also be available. The cost is \$5.

Memories of places are also important. If yours are of Welland come to hear Joe Barkovich, long time reporter and editor at The Tribune, Nov. 13, at 7 p.m. The cost is \$3 Please register ahead.

Finally, there is a card-making workshop Nov. 19, from 10 to 12:30 p.m. Please see the poster for the list of supplies you need to bring. \$10 Pre-registration required. At this fraught time of the year, may I also recommend Meditation Morning Nov. 23 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. It might be just the de-stressor needed. The cost is \$2.

Now, to books. I have written about picture books

for small children that are read to them by someone older. When they can read a little themselves but aren't yet proficient at it, we have a collection of Early Readers you might consider. The are graded by degree of difficulty, red stickers on the spines for the easiest and yellow for the hardest, they are a lot more interesting than the mind-numbingly boring "Fun With Dick and Jane" of my early days in school. A child who might be frustrated by the chapters books of regular juvenile fiction they are, after all, a big jump from the books you start with, may find the subjects of the early readers more enticing and a good bridge to things more

challenging. There are non-fiction books for those who like facts rather than stories but there are also books on ninjas and princesses and Barbies and Clifford and... It's all about gaining proficiency at reading so that you can go on to the really exciting stuff. Unfortunately, even in this digital world, the ability to read fluently is still a necessity and Google, wonderful though it is, won't recognize what you are looking up if the spelling is too far off the mark. So look to the easy readers if you have a child who needs to develop his skills before going on to harder books.

That's all today, folks. See you at the Library.



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**Saturday, Nov. 16th**  
New location -  
Downtown Niagara Falls  
(in conjunction with the  
Niagara Falls Santa Claus Parade)

**Run Starts at 9:30am**  
**Parade at 11:00am**

**CYTEC CANDY CANE 5K & FUN RUN/WALK**

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www.WFOL.com



### Rest We Forget

On November 11, as the nation remembers, we honour those who sacrificed in order to preserve our freedoms and rights. Council thanks our veterans for their actions, courage, strength, determination and bravery.

Mayor Dave Augustyn & Town Council





**NOVEMBER 20****ANTIQUES ON THE ROAD SHOW**

Grandma's silver, great-grandpa's baseball card, the carving bought at a garage sale, or the coin you found. Bring your small item to see what our experts have to say about where it came from and what it might be worth. Our specialists include: Deb Wilson of Granny's Boot (Rustic Primitive Country Furnishings and Folk Art), Rob Noyes of Coins Unlimited (Coins), Carole Berlove, "culinary historian" (silver), and Mike Bodnar, Cardboard Heroes (sports cards). Free draw, courtesy of Déjà vu Collectables. For entertainment purposes only. Neither the Pelham Public Library, nor our specialists make any claim regarding values of items. Wed., Nov. 20 from 7-9 p.m. \$2. Please register ahead and let us know what you are bringing.

**NOVEMBER 21****MAKERS' MARKET**

Christmas shopping event, 2 p.m. to 8 p.m., at Guild Hall, 77 Charlotte St., Port Colborne. Quality items all handmade by local artisans. Many vendors.

**NOVEMBER 23****PROGRESSIVE EUCHRE**

at Fonthill Lions hall, Hwy. 20, 7 p.m. Prizes, light food, cash bar, \$5.

**NOVEMBER 24****DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER**

Night: A social justice activist of international renown is guest for this year's Distinguished Speaker Night at St. Kevin's church, Welland. Fr. Bill Ryan is a Jesuit priest and has a PhD in economics from Harvard University. He is special adviser to the Jesuit Forum for Social Faith and Justice based in Toronto. The theme of his address is: Living with Limits. Living Well: Hints for Neighbours on an Endangered Planet. In its 16th year, Distinguished Speaker Night is a fall tradition at St. Kevin's. It begins with 5 p.m. mass, followed by a potluck supper at 6:15 p.m. in the parish hall followed by the speaker's address at 7:15 p.m. Those attending the potluck are asked to bring a dish of their choosing (salad, main course, dessert, etc.) and their own place settings. Coffee, tea, and juice are provided. For more info, call 905-735-3562.

**NOVEMBER 28****FRENCH WOMEN'S**

entrepreneurship eight-week class starts. Learn to start your own business. Classes at Welland Heritage Council and

Multicultural Centre, Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Child care available. Contact Lori for more information, at lwebster@wellandheritagecouncil.com or 905-732-5337 ext. 128.

**NOVEMBER 29****BABY BOOMER MUSIC TRIVIA**

Night at Fonthill legion, 141 Hwy. 20 E. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and game starts at 7:30

p.m. Relive music of the '50s to early '70s. Cost is \$20 a person; register teams of eight, or individually, at www.babyboomertrivia.ca, or call 905-938-8800. All proceeds to the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario.

**DECEMBER 2****NIAGARA BEEKEEPERS**

Association meets at the Niagara Regional Police Service community room, 5 Lincoln St., Welland, starts at 7 p.m.



# INFLATION FIGHTER

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REMNUMTS	REMNUMTS	REMNUMTS	REMNUMTS
12X14'1 to 12X16 <b>\$179</b> NO TAX	12X20 to 12X23 <b>\$279</b> NO TAX	12X23'1 to 12X25 <b>\$299</b> NO TAX	Regular Priced Remnants Take <b>25%</b> OFF

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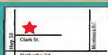


Monday-Thursday: 8am-6pm  
Friday: 8am-7pm  
Saturday: 9am-4pm

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## ONGOING

## THE HUNGARIAN HALL

at 361 Hellens Ave., Welland, is taking orders for cabbage rolls, Hungarian sausage and rice sausage (turkie). Pick up dates: Sausages on Nov. 1 at 2 p.m., cabbage rolls Nov. 3 at 2 p.m. For orders call before Oct. 28: Anna 905-735-0959, Klara 905-732-5865 or Eva 905-734-3583.

## WELLAND WALL OF ART

Crystal Beach artist David Drum is featured this month at the Welland Wall of Art at Welland Civic Square. Drum has also donated abstract artwork for a silent auction that will help raise funds to keep the gallery running. More information is available by calling 905-732-2840 or 905-735-2146.

## CHAIRFIRL FUNDRAISER

Pelham artists have painted oak children's chairs from when Pelham Public Library was built. Each chair is signed by the artist and comes with a gift basket. Bidding at the library runs Nov. 4 to Dec. 7.

## ALZHEIMER SOCIETY

of Niagara Region support groups for care partners meet the first Tuesday of the month, 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m., at Welland Community Wellness Complex, and second Wednesday of the month, same time, at Foyer Richelieu. For information, call 905-687-3914.

## FREE COMPUTER CLASSES

offered every day by Welland Heritage Council and Multicultural Centre, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., to Jan. 31. An evening class runs Wednesdays 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Call 905-732-5337 to register.

## TEEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

meets at Wainfleet Township Public Library at 3:30 p.m. Teens and pre-teens in grades 6 to 12 are invited to join the committee to inform library staff on current teen topics, provide teen picks for the monthly newsletter and develop, implement and attend teen programs. Meetings will be held on the third Thursday of every month at 3:30 p.m.

## COPING SKILLS WORKSHOPS

at Port Colborne Public Library, intended for family members who have a relative dealing with a mental health problem. Thursdays, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., in October. Workshops are free. Registration required. Call 905-894-5808.

## POINT ABINO LIGHTHOUSE

Guided tours are offered the second and fourth Saturday of the month between 10 a.m. and 1:45 p.m. Departure from 1036 Point Abino Rd., S. Ridgeway, next to the Bertie Boating Club. Further info at www.paips.ca.

## APPLE DUMPLINGS CAFE

Saturdays 8 a.m. to noon. Holy

Trinity Anglican Church, Welland, market square entrance. Hot apple dumplings, plain or raisin scones, tea or coffee. Eat in or take out. Frozen apple pies, large or small. Meet your friends at the market and take a break. All proceeds going to the church.

## A CAPELLA NIAGARA

Men's Chorus invites singers for fun, fellowship and fabulous four-part harmony at Welland Community Wellness Complex, 145 Lincoln St., on Tuesday nights at 7:30 p.m. For info call or text at 289-820-2444.

## INFERTILITY SUPPORT GROUP

Niagara meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. for anyone experiencing primary infertility. Call or text 289-821-4606 or e-mail infertilityniagara@hotmail.com for location or more information.

## COUPON CLUB

Thrifty Living Social Club & Coupon Swap takes place the last Monday of the month at Port Colborne Library, 310 King St., at 6 p.m. Free for all adults. Bring your tradeable coupons, enjoy some refreshments and social time. Chances to win free prizes.

## COMPUTER LESSONS

One-on-one at Port Colborne Public Library Saturday mornings. Lessons geared toward your interests including e-mail, simple websites, Facebook, Twitter, blogging and more. Cost is \$10 a person per one-hour lesson. Call

905-834-6512 for an appointment.

## VENDORS WANTED

The Guild Hall Makers' Market, 72 Charlotte St., Port Colborne, is held every Friday 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. To inquire, call Mary at 905-835-0384 or the church office at 905-834-3184.

## COMPUTER LESSONS

offered one-on-one at Port Colborne Library, Saturday mornings. Lessons geared toward your interests. Topics include e-mail, Facebook, Twitter, blogging and more. Call the library at 905-834-6512 for an appointment. Cost: \$10 per one-hour lesson. Pre-registration required.

## NIAGARA REGIONAL LIBRARY

Council assists adults in improving their reading, writing, grammar, math, spelling and computer skills and provides GED preparation and readiness for work programs. Our literacy and essential skills programs are free of charge and can be done through one-on-one tutoring or small group classes. Located at 3 Great Western St., attached to the St. Catharines Via train station. Call Pat at 905-687-8299 for more information.

## KNIT WITS

Work on your present project while spending time with other knitters. All levels. Crocheters welcome. Knitting tips will be shared at each session. Fridays from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Cost: \$2. Drop in at Pelham Public Library.

## TECH TIME

Need help with your e-books and downloading to your personal devices? Book a half-hour session at Welland Public Library and get one-on-one assistance. Tech Time runs from 10 a.m. to noon every Saturday in the main branch in September and October.

## CHESS CLUB

meets Thursdays at Welland Tennis Club, 45 Hooker St., 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. Everyone welcome. Call 905-734-6533.

## PROGRESSIVE EUCHERE

Tuesdays at Royal Canadian Legion, Morningstar Ave., Welland, 7:30 p.m. sharp. Admission is \$5, all welcome.

## BINGO

Every Tuesday hosted by UE Retirees Association, 1 p.m., at CAW Hall, 16 Steel St.

## PEROGIES

and cabbage rolls at St. Michael's hall, 411 Harriet St., Welland. To order call 905-732-4102 Wednesdays and Thursdays, 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. Pick up on Friday at the hall, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

## CABBAGE ROLLS

and perogy available every Wednesday at the Ukrainian Cultural Centre, McCabe Ave., Welland. Call ahead to place your order on Tuesday at 905-735-0741. All orders are picked up on Wednesday.

# PRICE REEL

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**GUARANTEE!**

(measure inside for details)





# SEARCH ENGINE

You ask ...  
we answer



## Deer on the move

**Q: How do the road crews know where to post deer crossing signs? Do they go by statistics on how many deer in the area or how many deer have been hit by cars in the vicinity?**

A: Urban legend may have it that signs are only put up where a deer has been struck by a vehicle, but that's not actually the case.

While signs may be put up in an area where a deer is killed, they are also erected pro-actively in areas where the deer population is plentiful and statistics aren't always required.

Dan Dillon, City of St. Catharines assistant director of transportation, said the city will act on concerns by the public who call in with sightings. Staff will go out to see if there is an area deer may be crossing, such as by a woods, and determine if a sign is warranted.

"We've had some sightings along Westchester, Oakdale, things like that," he said. "Usually someone calls to inquire about it and if it makes sense, we put them up."

St. Catharines has about 10-12 signs on city-owned streets. Dillon said local road authorities are in charge of putting up deer

crossing signs, whether the city, Region or province.

The Ministry of Transportation said there were 13,165 vehicle-wildlife collisions across the province in 2010.

This is a peak time for collisions with deer. White-tailed deer search for mates during the November and December "rut" season and also move from summer feeding areas to winter homes.

The Ministry advises drivers on its website to reduce collision risks by scanning from shoulder to shoulder and slowing down if wildlife are seen, watch for the yellow warning signs and use

high beams when possible at night. Brake firmly if an animal is crossing the road and never assume it will move out of the vehicle's way.

**Q: I have heard that the new outdoor outlet mall being built in NOTL near the skyway is going to be the largest in Canada when fully completed. Is that true?**

A: The key word to that claim is "outdoor".

The town of Niagara-on-the-Lake said the mall will be the largest open-air site of its kind in Canada in its latest press release

about the centre.

At 520,000-square-feet, the shopping centre will feature eight buildings in phase one anchored by an almost 80,000-square-foot Bass Pro Shops store. There will be connections between buildings to protect shoppers.

The buildings have been springing up quickly on a piece of land at Glendale Ave. and Taylor Rd., across from White Oaks, since dignitaries celebrated at the site this past May.

It's the first open-air mall for Ivanhoe Cambridge, which owns and manages malls across Canada, including Vaughan

Mills.

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# LOCAL NEWS

■ **REMEMBRANCE:** Veterans of Afghanistan honoured by memorial stone

## A monument for the fallen

**JEFF BOLICHOWSKI**  
QMI Agency Niagara

As the names of the fallen were read aloud, Maggie Vidal knew her brother's could have been on the list.

Her sibling, Martin Brisbois, served a tour of duty in Afghanistan safely. He was there building schools as a military police officer with the Canadian Forces.

But men he knew lost their

lives in the conflict, she said. As the names of the 158 Canadian soldiers killed in Afghanistan were read Sunday for the dedication of a stone honouring the war, it hit home for her and family members Susan

Brisbois and Saliena Lewis. "For us, it could have been our brother. One of them could have been our brother," she said.

She said she was moved by the stone's unveiling.

"It makes you cry," Vidal said.

The stone was unveiled Sunday in a ceremony at the Port Dalhousie cenotaph.

One by one, veterans placed poppies to a large cross in the

cenotaph's shadow as a line of dignitaries read out the names of the fallen. After each name was read, a bell tolled.

See **VETERANS**, Page A16

### Dr. Kimberly Dobson



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Veterans watch as a stone is unveiled at the Port Dalhousie cenotaph honouring Canadian soldiers killed in the war in Afghanistan.

JEFF BOLICHOWSKI/QMI AGENCY NIAGARA

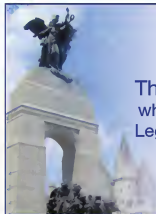
## TIM HUDAK

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# LOCAL NEWS

## Notice of the FirstOntario Credit Union 14<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of FirstOntario Credit Union Limited will be held:

**Date & Time:** December 4th, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.  
(registration begins at 6:15 p.m.)

**Place:** White Oaks Conference Resort and Spa

**Address:** 253 Taylor Road SS4, Niagara-on-the-lake, Ontario, L0S 1J0

### The purpose of this meeting:

#### 1. To receive the:

- Report of the Board of Directors
- Auditors' Report
- Report of the Financial Statements for the year ended August 31, 2013
- Report of the Loan Officer
- Report of the Audit Committee

#### 2. To appoint Auditors.

#### 3. To receive a Report on the Election of Directors.

#### 4. To transact any other business of an Annual General Meeting.

The meeting will be conducted in accordance with and respect of the Credit Unions and Caisses Populaires Act and follow Robert's Rules of Order.

**Please be advised that this meeting will be open only to Members in good standing as of Monday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013.** Members will be required to show their FirstOntario debit card and/or other piece of identification for registration purposes.

### Attention Unincorporated Associations, Partnerships and Corporations:

You are asked to submit a Proxy to your branch by 2:00 p.m., on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2013, the day prior to the meeting, in order for signing authorities to be verified.

### Door prizes and refreshments will be available.

Copies of the 2013 Financial Reports will be available to Members after November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2013 in all FirstOntario branches, on our website at FirstOntario.com and at the Annual General Meeting.

For further details, please visit our website at FirstOntario.com.

Ron Fleet  
Corporate Secretary

**FirstOntario**  
CREDIT UNION

## ■ VETERANS

## Names of fallen listed

### From Page A14

The military effort saw Canadians deployed from 2002 to 2011. All told, 39,558 Canadians served in Afghanistan. Three Niagarans were among the 158 Canadians who died during the war.

Warrant Officer Dennis Brown of St. Catharines died March 3, 2009 when an armoured vehicle he was in was hit by a roadside bomb. Royal Canadian Regiment Cpl. Albert Storm of Fort Erie died in a suicide bomb attack Nov. 27, 2006. And RCR Cpl. Tyler Crooks of Port Colborne was killed while on morning foot patrol March 20, 2009.

"It's very, very important to remember that all our soldiers defend not only Canada," said Chuck Johnston, the Royal Canadian Legion's provincial financial advisory chair, who headed up the ceremony. He said Canadians fight for freedom elsewhere, too.

"We're now honouring a new group of vets," he said.

"It hits me every time when I see a young person like that that has died. These kids are in their prime. Who knows what they could have been?

They could've found the cure for cancer."

Johnston said the impact of the Afghanistan conflict was keenly felt, especially in small communities. He said it seemed like everyone knew of someone who was killed.

"It was sons and daughters who were alive a few years ago, and they're gone," Johnston said.

Vidal said it has become a family tradition to visit the Port cenotaph. She said the family comes yearly to honour her father, a former president of Royal Canadian Legion branch 350.

Lifelong Port resident Sue Thibodeau said her uncles' names are inscribed on the cenotaph. She said her father served in the Second World War, two brothers served in the military and one nephew served as a peacekeeper in the Sudan region.

She welcomed the Afghanistan memorial proudly.

"I think we made — as best we could — an impact there," she said.

Jeff Bolichowski@sunmedia.ca  
Twitter: @JeffB\_Standar

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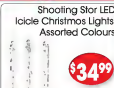
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## ■ NRP FUNDING

## Taxpayers could bite police budget bullet

JEFF BOLDWINSKI  
QMI Agency Niagara

It could be up to taxpayers to pony up for Niagara Regional Police's big 2014 budget, after regional council recently turned down a funding option.

Councillors were asked to reconsider saving a provincial windfall awarded for the service's new headquarters in Niagara Falls and use it instead to balance next year's budget.

But councillors voted against reopening the matter.

"We gave them an option to get us there. They chose to not even discuss that option at this point in time," said Niagara Regional Police Services Board chair Henry D'Angela.

He said the vote shows council supports the police service's budget, which is rising by 4.08% — higher than the 2.7% increase target regional council sought.

The increase, driven by an arbitrator wage settlement handed to officers dating back to 2012, is a major driving factor in pushing Niagara Region over its target of a 2% tax increase.

"My understanding is council is now supporting a 4.08% increase, for the police budget," D'Angela said.

Not so, said St. Catharines Coun. Bruce Timms. He said council must stick to its original budget target and force the NRP to make cuts to meet the spending goal.

Timms, one of council's most ardent labour and police critics, said council must

make clear "the taxpayer is not a bottomless pit." He said it must show arbitrators that services will be lost if they hand down hefty wage increases to public service workers.

"We don't intend to pass on (cuts) to housing or welfare or social services or roads or any other type of services that the Region provides," he said.

"I don't necessarily blame the police services board. They just have to understand we're not going to cut services elsewhere." D'Angela said the NRP tried to cut costs through an internal review and reduced its authorized strength.

The NRP will carry 703 officers and 314 civilians in 2014, down from 704 officers and 319 civilians in 2013. D'Angela said service levels won't change.

Niagara Region acting treasurer Chris McQueen said staff have found some police budget savings by recalculating the cost of the new police headquarters and St. Catharines detachment. He said a better interest rate on the debt the Region will acquire for the project will save \$350,000.

That, he said, puts the overall budget hike at 2.37%, but council still must support that total. That would bring the average Niagara home for an extra \$43.85 — more than the roughly \$37 a 2% hike would mean.

McQueen said council cannot micro-manage the police budget.

"Council can set a number," he said. "What they can't do is set line items."

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## LOCAL NEWS

■ ANIMALS: Humane society cutting adoption fee for cats to \$25

## Fee-line cutback at Humane Society

ROB HOULE  
QMI Agency Niagara

ST. CATHARINES — The Lincoln County Humane Society is having a clearance sale.

And it won't be understood.

The society is discounting already discounted cats. Beginning Thursday, the society is offering up the cats in its care for \$25, which is down from the \$90 adoption fee it instituted in February 2012. Prior to that, the adoption fee was \$195.

There is no time limit on the new price of adoption.

"There is no end date," humane society executive director Kevin Strooband said. "So it will be indefinitely, based on finances."

Strooband said the lower rate will cost the society \$55,000 annually.

The Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals spay/neuter clinic at the shelter provides the local humane society with five free surgeries per day, beyond that, it costs \$60 per cat. Other costs incurred by the humane

society for each cat include rabies shots (\$11), de-fleaing and de-worming (less than \$10), microchip (\$8) and first vaccinations, which Strooband said cost between \$5 and \$8.

"And then you have the labour to take care of them everyday, that's where your costs come in," Strooband said.

"We really need the public support," Strooband said. "Because it's donations that fund these ... programs."

Since coming under fire for a euthanasia rate hovering around 70%, the shelter has been able to lower the rate to less than 30%, Strooband said.

"That's because we're doing a better job, the community has stepped forward and we dropped (adoption fees) to \$99. I can only imagine what \$25 is going to do."

Strooband said there are approximately 100 cats at the shelter available for adoption, with more adults than kittens.

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